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The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

International drug control

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Letter dated 31 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Statement by the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan, signed on 11 October 2000 in Bishkek, concerning the threats to security in the region of Central Asia (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of our letter and its attachment circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 46, 106 and 164 and as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Movses S. **Abelian**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Armenia to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Sergei S. **Ling**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Belarus to the United Nations

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(*Signed*) Sergey V. **Lavrov**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Russian Federation to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Rashid K. **Alimov**
Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 31 October 2000 from the Permanent Representatives of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Heads of State of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan on the threats to security in the region of Central Asia

We, the participants in the Bishkek session of the Collective Security Council of the States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security, express our concern over the increasing manifestations of international terrorism and extremism in Central Asia.

The States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security believe that this poses a direct threat to the security of the countries of the region and will have the long-term result of destabilizing the situation.

The basic source of instability in the region is the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan, which has become one of the world centres of international terrorism and narcotics distribution.

The possibility of large-scale humanitarian repercussions also represents a serious threat, and already this requires that international organizations should adopt practical measures of a preventive nature and provide material assistance to the peaceful population.

We urge the international community to expedite the process of a settlement of the situation in Afghanistan. Without stability in that country, there will be no stability in the neighbouring regions. Only collective international efforts will provide real impetus for the establishment of peace in Afghanistan and thus promote the strengthening of stability and security in Central Asia.

In view of the danger of a possible escalation of the situation in the region, the States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security propose that a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council should be convened to elaborate specific measures for the settlement of the Afghan problem with the participation of all sides involved in the conflict.

This problem is not only regional in scope; it represents a danger for the entire world.

We urge the United Nations, the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Organization of the Islamic Conference and the entire world community to support the efforts of the States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security in the struggle against international terrorism and extremism and to proceed with the elaboration of coordinated practical measures designed to avert this global threat.

We also confirm our determination collectively to oppose any manifestation of terrorism and extremism in the area covered by the Treaty on Collective Security.

The participants in the session strongly affirm that any attempts to violate the territorial integrity of the Central Asian States parties to the Treaty will be decisively halted by our joint efforts.

The States parties to the Treaty on Collective Security which are being directly subjected to armed acts of terrorism and extremism will be given the necessary assistance in their struggle. The parties to the Treaty will take additional measures to set up regional systems of collective security and to intensify cooperation in the military and political spheres.

For the Republic of Armenia
(*Signed*) R. **Kocharian**
President of the Republic of Armenia

For the Republic of Belarus
(*Signed*) A. **Lukashenka**
President of the Republic of Belarus

For the Republic of Kazakhstan
(*Signed*) N. **Nazarbaev**
President of the Republic of Kazakhstan

For the Kyrgyz Republic
(*Signed*) A. **Akayev**
President of the Kyrgyz Republic

For the Russian Federation
(*Signed*) V. **Putin**
President of the Russian Federation

For the Republic of Tajikistan
(*Signed*) E. **Rakhmonov**
President of the Republic of Tajikistan

Bishkek, 11 October 2000